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## IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A pad-type idler for a conveyor belt, the idler comprising:  
  
a pad including a first surface and, a second surface for contacting the conveyor;  
  
a wear indicator extending from the first surface part way through the pad to a point adjacent the second surface, whereby, wearing of the ~~top~~ second surface of the pad exposes the wear indicator in the second surface.
2. (Original) An idler according to claim 1, wherein the wear indicator includes a frusto-conical section adjacent the second surface.
3. (Currently Amended) An idler according to claim 1, wherein the wear indicator includes a conical ~~system~~ section adjacent the second surface.
4. (Original) An idler according to claim 1, wherein the wear indicator extends to the second surface.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Original) An idler according to claim 1, wherein the wear indicator is frusto-conical.
8. (Original) An idler according to claim 1, wherein the wear indicator is conical.
9. (Original) An idler pad according to claim 1, including a plurality of wear indicators.

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10. (Original) An idler pad according to claim 1, wherein the wear indicator is a bore.
11. (Currently Amended) A non-moving idler for a conveyor comprising:  
a pad including a surface for contacting the conveyor;  
a wear indicator extending in into the pad adjacent the surface  
whereby wearing of the surface exposes the wear indicator.
12. (Currently Amended) An idler according to claim ~~10~~ 11, wherein the wear indicator is narrowest nearest the surface and is wider away from the surface, whereby progressive wearing of the surface exposes progressively larger sections of the wear indicator.
13. (Currently Amended) An idler according to claim 11, wherein the wear indicator is a well depression.
14. (Original) An idler according to claim 11, wherein the wear indicator is a circle in cross-section.
15. (New) An idler according to claim 11 wherein the wear indicator includes a frusto-conical section adjacent the second surface.
16. (New) An idler according to claim 11, wherein the wear indicator includes a conical section adjacent the second surface.
17. (New) An idler according to claim 11, wherein the wear indicator is frusto-conical.
18. (New) An idler according to claim 11, wherein the wear indicator is conical.

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19. (New) An idler pad according to claim 11, wherein the wear indicator is a bore.